## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Lootz et al.

Examiner:

To be assigned

Serial No:

To be assigned

**Art Unit:** 

To be assigned

For:

CONNECTING SYSTEM FOR CONNECTING A STENT TO A

RADIOPAQUE MARKER AND A PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A CONNECTION BETWEEN A STENT AND TWO OR MORE RADIOPAQUE

**MARKERS** 

Filed:

December 2, 2005

Date:

December 2, 2005

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## **Under 37 CFR §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of filing or before a first Office Action on the merits, and therefore, it is timely filed without payment of a fee. 37 CFR §1.97(b).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25.

This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(c).

10/559542

## IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 DEC 2003

Four (4) U.S. Patent documents and six (6) foreign patent documents are listed on the attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of each of the foreign patent documents is enclosed. Enclosed, but not listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A, is a copy of the search report from the German Patent Office, issued May 11, 2004. Copies of the cited U.S. references are not enclosed.

Attached to Foreign document DE 101 55 191, which is not in the English language, is an abstract in the English language as provided by the European Patent Office. Additionally, it should be noted that U.S. 6,287,332 is believed to be a U.S. patent corresponding to DE 198 56 983.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information known to the inventor or contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to each of the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Cunniff Reg. No. 42,451

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Atty. Docket: 117163.00151

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 32 DEC 2009

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** Filing Date 12/02/2005 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Daniel Lootz STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **Art Unit Examiner Name** (Use as many sheets as necessary) 117163.00151 Attorney Docket Number 1 Sheet of

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
	AA	US- 6,022,374	02/08/2000	Imran .				
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	AC	<sup>US-</sup> 2002/0193867 A1	12/19/2002	Gladdish Jr. et al.				
	AD	us- 6,287,332 B1	09/11/2001	Bolz et al.				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,			
		Country Co	ode <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )		MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Τ°	
	BA	EP	1 212 991	A2	06/12/2002	Duerig et al.			
(2455550470024024	BB	DE	198 56 983	A1	12/30/1999	Bolz et al.			
	BC	DE	101 55 191	<b>A</b> 1	05/22/2003	Henkes et al.			
***************************************	BD	WO	02/15820	A2	02/28/2002	Supper et al.			
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Examiner	Date		
Signature	Considered	ļ	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.